

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: SAKUMA et al.

FILED:

FOR: CIRCULAR-SHAPED METAL STRUCTURE, METHOD ...

DOCKET: AMANO A275 DIV

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to Examination of the subject Divisional Application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following before "Background of the Invention":

--This application is a divisional application of U.S. application serial no. 09/727,806 filed December 1, 2000.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

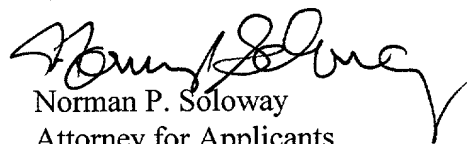
Please cancel claims 7-15, 17 and 19-20, without prejudice.

REMARKS

It is requested that the filing fee be calculated based on the claims as amended.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them to our deposit account number 08-1391.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED


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